

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

POLAR NUMISMATIST

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GOLD DIE USED ON SILVER MEDAL



While going through our stock, Jerry noticed that the 1994 State of Alaska $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce silver medal bore a "gold" content statement. Needless to say we found this very interesting. We looked further, and found that we had three different reverse dies for 1994.

In 1993, the die with clouds, and no fineness statement was used (below, left). This apparently was used on some of the 1994 $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce medals. In 1995, the die with the ".999 Fine" statement was used (below, right). Our assumption is that the "clouds" die was the first die used in 1994. Later in the year, the ".999 Fine" die was introduced. Then, sometime after the ".999 Fine" die was introduced, the "Gold" die was inadvertently used. The engraving is so small that it would be easy to use the wrong die.

Since we have medals with three different reverse dies, it stands to reason that we ordered these from Alaska Mint at least three times during the year. Mint records show that a total of 1,550 of the $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce silver medals were minted in 1994. The Alaska Mint does not know how many may have been struck with the gold die.

A set of these medals is offered in the auction that accompanies this issue. They are Lot #258



Reverse with clouds, no fineness statement



Reverse with the ".999 Fine" legend



1994 $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce silver medal shown actual size
bearing the "One Half Troy Oz. .999+ Fine Gold" legend.

North of 60°

South of 50°

EDITORIAL

Our apologies to our readers who were looking forward to Lee Poleske's article about Henton's Lodge. And a big apology to Lee for preempting his article. That article has been pushed back to the next issue.

When Jerry discovered the three different dies used on the 1994 1/4 ounce State of Alaska silver medal, we knew that we had to run that on the front page, and include a set in the auction! This is a neat piece, and we are pleased to be able to offer the set to those who collect Alaska medals, as well as oddities. See lot #258.

There are some interesting "space fillers" in this issue. The "feedback" items are most welcome, as they add to what has already been printed. It is always nice to stumble upon a medal not reported.

We have started to look to eBay for previously unreported items. The advantage of this is that most times we can get a good scan, and just paste it into the newsletter.

For those submitting items "For the Record," we would prefer a scan. You can email them to us, or you can mail a disk. If you email them, and it is a large file, please send an email first to let us know it is coming. We are a bit paranoid about viruses. We got hit in December, and while we are doing everything we can to avoid this from happening again, we will at times delete emails with attachments before they get to our computer. If you cannot send a scan, we can scan photocopies. While the quality is generally not as good, they are still generally acceptable. In any case, keep those items "For the Record" coming!

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1 page - \$15 1/2 page - \$8 1/4 page - \$5

1/8 page (business card size) - \$15 for 5 issues

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LEMKE FEEDBACK

I searched the directories for W.A. Lemke, whose name appeared on a newly discovered Juneau token in February's ATCPN. This was a very short-lived business. It is not in any directories prior to 1914. The 1914 Dun shows him operating a bakery and confectionery; the 1914 Bradstreet shows it as a bakery. He's not in any 1915 or later directories.

-Ron Benice

UNKNOWN TOKEN DIE



This token die recently appeared on eBay. It is approximately 7/8 inches in diameter. A token from Solive & Boiser Co. is unknown. This is one of several dies known that documents a token issue, but no tokens are known to have survived. It sold for \$84.

GOLD MEDAL REPORTED



This medal recently appeared on eBay. It did not make our listing of Alaska gold medals. It was described by the seller as follows:

"Up for auction today I am proud to offer this Rare Proof Olympic Gold Medal announcing Anchorage Alaska as a Candidate for the 1992 Winter Olympic Games. Minted from refined Alaska Gold, it is 1/4 oz. .9998 Pure. Very few were ever made, mostly in silver. Obverse; Candidate 1992 Olympic Winter Games. Reverse; Anchorage, Alaska, America's Choice. About 20mm." It sold for \$81! A good buy.

We talked with the Alaska Mint, and we are informed that they made (20) 1/4 ounce gold medals and (2) One ounce gold medals. Further, there was a 1994 Olympic bid, and an unknown quantity (less than 20) of 1/4 ounce gold medals were also struck for this event.

SPITZBERGEN- -ANOTHER VIEWPOINT



The 10 Rouble noting the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center supposedly issued by "Arctikugol" the Russian coal mining company on Spitzbergen, made another appearance on eBay. Below is the seller's description.

"This new coin of Spitzbergen, Russian settlement on a Norwegian island, has been issued in the memory of victims of the Sep 11 tragedy. The obverse features a view of WTC in New York with a plane striking the right tower and fire over the left tower. The legend is **Against Terrorism above and New York, September 11** below the picture. The coin was struck in copper-nickel alloy, in Proof quality, measures 29 mm (US half dollar size), mintage is **only 1,001 pcs**, St.Petersburg Mint. The coin comes sealed in soft plastic as produced at the mint.

"This is the very first **COIN** (not a token) commemorating the World Trade Center tragedy. You can find many privately issued rounds but no real **COINS**. Spitzbergen is an **official** money issuing authority listed in Standard Catalog of World Coins by Krause&Mishler."

I thought about emailing the seller and giving my opinion that these are not coins, but tokens. Further, that it appears that the 1998 set was struck for collectors. With a mintage of 1,001 (or about 2,000) as previously reported, this token, and its companion piece for the raising of the Kursk, it is likely that these were never intended to circulate in Spitzbergen, but were minted solely for sale to collectors. Emailing the sell would not accomplish anything.

The Spitzbergen tokens will probably continue to be listed in the Krause-Mishler catalogue. These are neat pieces, and one of the few items that can be collected that are from, or relate to Spitzbergen. The first offering was \$100 for the pair. This item got to over \$30, but then disappeared, and now shows as an invalid item! Wonder if someone disputed the coin status.

A.B. & T. FEEDBACK

John Kallman of Cash Coin Connection sent in information on AB&T chits, much more than we can print!

Ray Bows authored "Vietnam Military Lore 1959-1973." The chits we showed last month were not listed. However, a different AB&T chit book is listed, with the cover bearing the legend "Not Redeemable after December 1966." Mr. Bows attributes this to Vung Tau.

There is another chit book with an "Alaskan" connection: Alaskan Oasis, Private Club, Void after 25 Dec. 1966. It may be that this is the after hours club that Mr. Schwarz made reference to.

Mr. Kallman states that "Many chits were made in the US and shipped to Vietnam. However, an equal number were locally produced. The chits shown in your article appear to have been produced within Vietnam as all of the Alaska Barge & Transport chits reported to date."

Mr. Kallman is a serious researcher of all military tokens and chits who, with several other individuals, are in the process of trying to produce a comprehensive book about military chits. He would like to correspond with any individuals who have material of this nature, regardless of location of issue, as long as it is related to military use. You can write to him at P.O. Box 122, Sartell, MN 56377, or email him at CashCoinConnection@yahoo.com

NEW GOLD MEDAL



The Evergreen Mint in Anchorage, part of Oxford Assaying and Refining, recently struck the above one ounce gold medal. This, along with the Anchorage Olympics medals on the previous page, should be added to our listing of gold and platinum Alaska medals that we began in the August/September 2000 issue of ATC&PN.

FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: Elks Lodge 1351 with wrong lodge number (1331 on medal). Bronze, 40mm (K. Hawk).



KETCHIKAN: Alaska Bar, good for one "over the rocks" drink. Gold on black plastic, size uncertain.

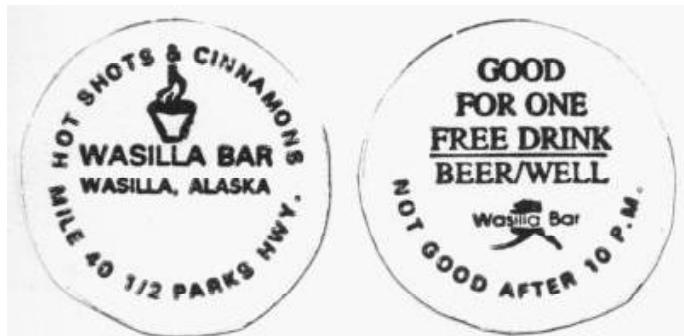


KETCHIKAN: The Penny Man, \$10 in trade. One ounce silver.



EIELSON A.F.B.: Eielson's Top 3, Alaska's finest. Reverse has map of Alaska with three different jets. Bronze, 40mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

PETERSBURG: Elks Lodge, one free drink, small letter variety on the reverse. Bronze, 38mm (K. Hawk).



WASILLA: Wasilla Bar, Good for one free drink. Red on white plastic, 41mm (submitted by K. Hawk).



ALASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: 1-207th Aviation Battalion, New Horizons 2001, Honduras, Guatemala. Bronze, 40mm, with colorful enameled shield on the obverse. Reverse is enameled blue, green and orange (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD: Counterdrug Support Program. Bronze, 40mm. Leaf enameled green, "NO" symbol enameled red (submitted by K. Hawk).

U.S. - SIBERIA SCRIP AT AUCTION

Two very neat, and historically important scrip from Vladivostok, Siberia, Russia appeared in a Lyn Knight auction closing February 27.

The first is from the U.S. Navy Club. We quote from the auction:

"Black on off-white paper; signature (official?) of C H Rockey on the back. Made during the anti-Bolshevik interventionist involvement. Denominated in military Sen-Yen currency as, at that time, it was the most stable in the area; for use by United States Navy personnel.

Very rare and historic issue. Fine (450-600)." We believe it realized \$280.



The second note is from the American Grill. Again, we quote from the auction:

"Blue on white paper; red denomination and signature. Used by American interventionists fighting the Bolsheviks in Siberia. English text reads "Tnis (this) is not good for ever". Special item connecting these two areas; this in exceptional grade for the issue. VF (175-300)." We believe that it realized \$120.

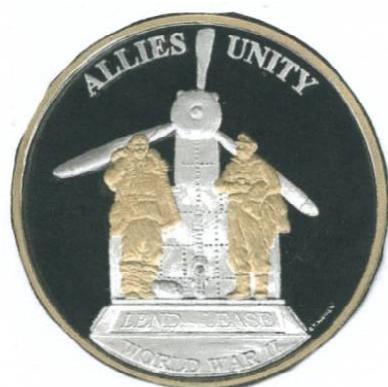
The actual sizes of these notes were not given.

It is interesting that another American Grill was featured in the February 26 issue of Numismatic News, in the "Duly Noted" column by Niel Schafer. This note, a 3 Ruble is identical in appearance to the 1 Ruble, but for the "3" denomination in the center and corners for front and back. And speaking of Siberia



LEND LEASE (DEJA VOUS ALL OVER AGAIN)

Recently issued by the Alaska-Siberia Research Center is an attractive, gold on two ounce silver medal, with a P-39 on the obverse (we did this 10 years ago with our Alaska Highway/Lend Lease medal). A total of 200 were struck for presentation purposes. None are for sale.



ALASKA RARE COINS
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AUCTION: TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M., APRIL 6th IN FAIRBANKS. These are just the Alaskan items. If you want a complete listing, please call or write to the address above. Phone bids may be called in between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday to Saturday (noon on the day of the auction). Bids will also be accepted at the e-mail address above.

ALASKAN TOKENS & MEDALS

ESTIMATE

232	Alaska Token: Anchorage, Anchorage Dairy, 1 Pint, B-7a, AU. The scarcer of the two from this firm.	75.00
233	Alaska Token: Chathanika, "Bingle Fritz", 25 and 50¢ and \$1 in trade, B-1 a-c. Popular bi-metal tokens, previously rare, now not so rare. The 25¢ VG or so, but "Bingle Fritz" is worn smooth. The 50¢ and the \$1 are EF or so. Still scarce and in demand.	300.00+
234	Alaska Token: The Southern Club, 6½¢ in trade, B- 36a, EF. There were a lot of bars and saloons named "Northern", but this is the only "Southern" that issued tokens.	60.00
235	Alaska Token: Cordova, Windsor Hotel, 6½¢ in trade, B-41a. Most of these that we have seen are dug tokens. Some corrosion, but fully legible.	225.00
236	Alaska Token: Fort Yukon, Fort Yukon Hotel, 25¢ in trade, B-4a, VF-EF. A little surface discoloration. Most of these are found bubbled from being in a fire.	30.00
237	Alaska Token: Ketchikan, Quality Bakery, 1 small loaf, B-48, EF. Popular token with star cut out.	30.00
238	Alaska Tokens: Ketchikan, Stedman Hotel, two 12½¢ tokens, B-60a i and ii, with and without "F" counterstamp. Both about VF.	50.00
239	Alaska Tokens: Ketchikan, Stedman Hotel, three 25¢ in trade card tokens, pink, orange and green, B-60c i-iii. These are nice examples, without the usual water staining.	60.00
240	Alaska Token: Koyukuk, J.W. Evans, \$10 in trade. B-1f. Appears to have been in a fire, fully legible.	250.00
241	Alaska Token: McCarthy, Johnson Hotel, 12½¢ in trade, B-4a, EF. Popular, almost a ghost town.	35.00
242	Alaska Token: Nenana, Nenana Trading Post, \$1 in trade, B-5a, some discoloration and a cut edge. Not bad, overall about Fine. Very scarce token.	300.00
243	Alaska Tokens: Nome, Polet Store, 5, 10 and 50¢, and \$1 in trade, B-41 b,d,f,i, AU or so. Very colorful four piece set in fiber, issued during a metal shortage during the war.	50.00
244	Alaska Token: Noorik, Noorvik Cooperative Store, 50¢ in trade, B-1d, but with a reeded edge, Fine. This is the only one we have seen. I think that we saw a reeded edge 50¢ from Hoonah years ago. Probably very scarce.	100.00
245	Alaska Token: Valdez, I & B, no denomination, B-9a. A dug token as are most. Fully legible.	150.00
246	Alaska Chit: We quote from Stack's sale of January, 1996. "Alaskan Mining tool chit, circa 1899-1902. On a lozenge shape brass, "700" within diamond outline"... the whole attached by a brass loop to a thin strip of iron....Essentially as made and showing signs of use." This is part of lot # 7, one of several items from the "700" mine offered. The Seven Hundred Foot Mine was on a 700 foot strip of land between Alaska Treadwell and Ready Bullion mines on Douglas Island. A neat piece of Alaska history. With photocopy of the lot description from the Stack's sale.	100.00
247	Cellophane wrapped currency. The cellophane is printed in yellow "Tourist dollar, keep it moving, A tourist gave this to us. We give it to you, Alaska Coastal Airlines." on both sides. Some cracking on the cellophane, but not bad. A scarce survivor of an economic statement.	30.00+
248	Cellophane wrapped currency. The cellophane is printed in red "I am among the Payroll Dollars from the Fairbanks Daily News Miner. Money earned in Fairbanks...Spent in Fairbanks...Helps Fairbanks grow." Some cracking to the cellophane, but pretty much intact. An interesting method for showing the impact of a business on a community.	30.00+

ALASKAN TOKENS & MEDALS, CONT.

ESTIMATE

249	Alaska Medals: Sitka, Russian Orthodox Church Jubilee, 175 years Religious Progress in Alaska. Set of silver and bronze medals. Attractive medals not often offered at auction.	30.00
250	Alaska Medal: In the format of a military decoration, the seal of the University of Alaska suspended from a yellow ribbon with the big dipper and north star in blue. The medal carries the date "1922", one of the disputed years of founding of the University. First time we have seen this offered.	100.00+
251	Alaska Medals: Fairbanks Cheechako Grubstake, \$2, 1963. Set of silver and brass medals issued by North Star Enterprises. This firm issued several medals. The silver in this set is very scarce, with only 49 struck! This is number 21.	100.00+
252	Alaska Medal: Fairbanks 2 Pinch Token, redeemable for two pinches of gold dust from the Gold Nugget Coin Cache, 1964. Very similar to the preceding lot. Number 48 of 49 struck.	100.00+
253	Alaska Medal: Juneau Centennial Medal Set, 1980. Map of Alaska obverse, reverse incorporates south-east Indian designs. Silver and bronze, matched numbered set.	35.00+
254	Ten Different Alaska 1 oz. Silver Rounds: Includes 1975-M and 1975-S Pipeline medals; two different 1984 25th anniversary of statehood medals; 1989 Alaska animals; Aurora I and Aurora II; Ahtna Inc.; Oxford with moose, caribou and bear; and America's last frontier with map and flags, reverse similar to Walking Liberty Half. A total retail value of approximately ...	135.00
255	Alaska State Medal, 1/10 oz. Gold, 1990. In this second year of the state program, Alaska Precious Metals only struck 120 of these gold fractionals depicting a pair of puffins on the obverse. The first two years saw different designs for the gold and silver medals. That changed in 1992 when the Alaska Mint took over the program. Rare.	125.00-200.00
256	Alaska State Medals, 1992, 1993 and 1994, one ounce silver, proof-like. The Alaska Mint took over the state medal contract about midway through 1992. Consequently, not many were issued in their first year, with only 3,297 proof-like medals struck. These three years were the eagle, wolf and bear, respectively. They currently catalogue for...	465.00
257	Alaska Mint Gold Panner Medals, 1993 and 1994, with gold nugget. An attractive series showing gold panning in various settings. A pair of earlier issues.	50.00+
258	Alaska Silver Medals, one claiming to be Gold! Official State Medals, 1994, three ¼ ounce silver medals, one with a reverse die stating: "One Half Troy Oz. .999+ Fine Gold ." This medal is a mule , the result of the improper pairing of dies. This is accompanied by two other 1994 ¼ silver medals with different reverses: 1) clouds and no fineness statement and 2) ".999 Fine" statement. These three medals make a nice set, undoubtedly scarce. Three medals, all in original flips.	100.00+
259	Golden Days Buttons. Over the years, we have compiled research on Golden Days buttons and pins. It was amazing how little was known, especially before the mid-sixties. We are willing to share this research with anyone that has an interest in this fun collecting area. We offer here a very scarce 1970 button which was made from spruce wood and stamped in red ink "Fairbanks Golden Days - 1970" with a gold panner and a phony nugget glued to it, which is missing. These wood chip buttons started in 1968 and were used each year until 1974. Also included is a 1981 "Freedom is Golden" button which is rather common. Two pieces.	75.00
260	Alaska Spoon: Alaska S.S. Co. (Steam Ship Company), 1915. Ship and company flag. By Wallace, not marked sterling, so it may be silver plated, 5 7/8 inches. Light wear, medium toning. Popular.	50.00
261	Alaska Spoon: Juneau Alaska engraved in bowl (gold plated?). The stem has a dog team, walrus and polar bear. Sterling, by P.E.K., 5½ inches. Light to moderate wear.	50.00
262	Alaska Spoon: Small spoon with Alaska on the stem, and a Billiken. Sterling, 4¼ inches.	30.00
263	Alaska Spoon: Small spoon with bowl in the shape of a pointed shovel. Bowl is gold plated and engraved St. Michael Alaska. The stem looks like it has grapes and leaves. At the top is a gold pan with crossed pick and shovel behind, and a walrus at the very top. The stem is wrapped with fine wire, up to and behind the gold pan. Sterling with a hallmark we do not recognize, 4½ inches.	75.00+
264	Polar Books Bibliography and Price Guide, by J. Parmer, Booksellers, 1990. A very comprehensive listing of polar books. While the prices may be a bit old, it is a great reference to see what is available. Published at...	35.00